

What Is Claimed Is:

- 1 1. A method for initialing a synchronization process between a client and a
2 server, comprising the steps of:
 - 3 1) initializing a synchronization query, wherein said synchronization
4 query includes a null data marker; and
 - 5 2) receiving a synchronization result, wherein said synchronization
6 result includes a first data marker.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein a data marker is a synchronization token
2 associated with a state of data on said client.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein a data marker is a number that is sequentially
2 increased by said server with each iteration of said synchronization processes.
- 1 4. A method for synchronizing a client with a server, comprising the steps of:
 - 2 1) receiving a synchronization query from said client, wherein said
3 synchronization query includes a current data marker;
 - 4 2) using said current data marker to determine whether a previous
5 synchronization process was successful; and
 - 6 3) performing a full synchronization process if said previous
7 synchronization process was successful.
- 1 5. The method of claim 4, further comprising the steps of:
 - 2 4) comparing said current data marker received from said client with
3 previous data markers stored by said server for said client;
 - 4 5) if said current data marker is equivalent to one of said previous data
5 markers,

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- 6 a. determining a first set of instructions to cause said client to
 - 7 roll back to a known state, wherein said known state is the
 - 8 state of information associated with an equivalent previous
 - 9 data marker;
 - 10 b. determining a second set of instructions to cause said client to
 - 11 move forward from said state associated with said equivalent
 - 12 previous data marker to said state associated with said current
 - 13 data marker;
 - 14 c. sending said first and said second sets of instructions, along
 - 15 with a new data marker, to said client for execution;
 - 16 6) if said current data marker is not equivalent to one of said previous
 - 17 data markers,
 - 18 a. identifying a third set of instructions to initialize said client;
 - 19 and
 - 20 b. sending said a third set of instructions, along with said new
 - 21 data marker, to said client for execution.
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- 1 6. The method of claim 4, wherein said full synchronization process step
 - 2 comprises the steps of:
 - 3 a) identifying a set of differences in objects identified by said
 - 4 server;
 - 5 b) sending said set of differences to one or more
 - 6 synchronization modules to synchronize said set of
 - 7 differences from at least one provider;
 - 8 c) compiling a fourth set of instructions to synchronize said
 - 9 client with one or more synchronization modules; and

10 d) sending said fourth set of instructions, along with an
11 updated data marker, to said client for execution.

1 7. The method claim 6, wherein an adapter reads data from said client prior to
2 said step of identifying a set of differences, and wherein said adapter writes
3 updated data to said client after performing said step of sending said fourth
4 set of instructions.

1 8. The method of claim 1, wherein said client resides on a mobile device.

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